

High Holidays Schedule

All services are in the main sanctuary at the Unitarian Center unless noted otherwise.

First Day of Rosh Hashanah

Friday, September 29, Maariv, 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 30, Shacharit/

Musaf, 10:00 am

Children's Service, 10:00 am in the Unitarian Center Chapel;

Seudat Mitzvah after Musaf at Fort Point;

Tashlich, 3:30 pm at Fort Point

Second Day of Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, October 1, 10:00 am

at Sha'ar Zahav

Shabbat Shuvah (Sabbath of Return)

Friday, October 6, 8:15 pm

Saturday, October 7, 10:30 am;

Healing Service, 4:00 pm

All three services at Sha'ar Zahav

High Holiday Blood Drive

Saturday, October 7, 9:30 am-1:30 pm

Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, 270

Masonic Ave., San Francisco

Yom Kippur

Sunday, October 8, Kol Nidre, 7:30 pm

Monday, October 9

Shacharit/Musaf, 10:00 am;

Children's Service, 1:30 pm;

Mincha, 3:30 pm;

Yizkor/Neilah, 5:00 pm

Break fast to follow

Sukkot

Friday, October 13, 8:15 pm

at Sha'ar Zahav

Saturday, October 14, 10:30 am

in Rabbi Kahn's sukkah (call office for address)

Saturday, October 14, Potluck Luncheon, 11:30 am,

925 Talbot in Albany

Sunday, October 15, Service/Potluck, 6:45 pm

424 Central in San Francisco (sukkah building at 10:30 am, sukkah decorating at noon)

Simchat Torah

Friday, October 20, 8:15 pm

Saturday, October 21, 10:30 am

both services at Sha'ar Zahav



Sukkot and Simchat Torah

A custom among some Jews is to hammer the first nail of the Sukkah immediately after Yom Kippur. This custom reminds us that the Jewish calendar moves from the solemnity of Yom Kippur to the joy of the festival of Sukkot. Sukkot and Simchat Torah, when we finish our annual reading of the Torah and begin again, fall on Shabbat this year and will be celebrated at Fri-

day evening and Saturday morning services. The calendar has the complete schedule and locations. This year Sukkot (the holiday) will be celebrated in three different CSZ Sukkot (the booths) in addition to our festival service at the synagogue. Simchat Torah, with its dancing and singing, is observed in an "only at Sha'ar Zahav" style. We look forward to your participation.

Rabbi's Column

At-One-Ment

The rabbis of old loved to play with words. They would often reinterpret the Biblical text by suggesting a possible alternative reading of the text. For example, the rabbis proposed dividing the first word of the Torah, *Berashit*, into two, thereby revealing its inner or fuller meaning. Many of their word plays are profound; others appear to be puns for

the fun of it. Most of these "mini-midrashim" do not make sense once translated. Sometimes English words lend themselves to midrashic interpretation. We customarily translate Yom Kippur as "the Day of Atonement." As the rabbis would say, "Do not read 'Atonement.' Read: 'At-one-ment.'"

(Continued on page 6)

Gay and Lesbian Jews Take Over Chicago Hyatt

From August 24-27, 1989 lesbian and gay Jews from around the world gathered at the Hyatt Regency Hotel—Chicago for the 11th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews. Hosted by our sibling congregation in Chicago, *Or Chadash*, the conference was a terrific opportunity to meet other people who share common interests and goals with us.

Sha'ar Zahav was well-represented at the event, with Rabbi Kahn, Robin Leonard, Ora Prochovnick, Rena Frantz and myself attending. The conference itself consisted of a mixture of social events, meals (what else do you expect from a Jewish gathering?) and educational workshops dealing with topics of gay/lesbian/Jewish themes. Rabbi Kahn, Ora, Robin and I led different workshops which were all very well-received. A particular high point for Robin and me was a workshop we held on Developing and Sustaining Congregational Leadership. This 90-minute discussion was attended by over 30 people and we were able to impart to many of the leaders of the smaller gay/lesbian synagogues valuable information that they will now be able to take back to their organizations. Similarly, we learned of techniques used at other synagogues that we may consider for Sha'ar Zahav. The conference was attended by over 250 people who came from all corners of the earth, including a registrant from Johannesburg, South Africa.

The International Conference, which takes place every other year, is held under the auspices of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. The World Congress is the umbrella organization of the gay and lesbian Jewish groups around the world. Currently, there are 42 groups worldwide, of which 27 are members. The purpose of the World Congress is to coordinate and promote educational and development programs for gay and lesbian Jewish groups. Its goals and objectives are:

- To maintain communication among and provide assistance to member gay and lesbian Jewish organizations;
- To extend assistance in the formation of new gay and/or lesbian Jewish organizations;
- To coordinate educational programs

and to disseminate information about homosexuality and Judaism or the activities of the World Congress on regional and/or international levels for both the Jewish and gay/lesbian communities;

- To develop the resources of the World Congress and its member groups through sponsorship of regional and international conferences;

- To pursue the eradication of sexism, homophobia and anti-Semitism through educational programs consistent with the aforementioned goals and objectives.

The above goals and objectives are ambitious for a fledgling organization and the World Congress has not been without its growing pains. It is difficult for a board that meets only once a year, with delegates from all around the world, to get all its work done within the space of a two-day board meeting, but this is how the World Congress board operates. This year's board meeting took place on August 22 and 23, prior to the beginning of the International Conference. Robin and I attended as Sha'ar Zahav's delegates. Topics discussed at the board meeting ranged from internal organizational restructuring to the decision being made to pursue membership in the International Lesbian/Gay Association (ILGA) and the United Nations Economic and Social Council. The World Congress is also actively working on the Jewish National Fund to acknowledge our donation of a grove of trees in Israel with a commemorative plaque. (At this time, they are refusing to do so because we want the word "homosexual" to appear on the plaque.) Presently we are the only group in the world whose plaque remains uninscribed due to the homophobia of the JNF.

Goals for the coming year include reprinting of the educational outreach brochure that former Executive Director Aaron Cooper produced several years ago, which was distributed to over 10,000 rabbis and Jewish organizations around the world to educate them about the existence of gay and lesbian Jews. However, in order to accomplish this, the World Congress needs to embark on an active fundraising campaign. Currently all operating funds for the World Congress come from its member organi-

zations, and these funds do not approach the dollars necessary for reproduction of printed materials for distribution to the general public. Therefore, each board member (representing their own synagogue/group) agreed to host a fundraising event in their own city to help raise funds through the Friends of the World Congress Campaign. For an \$18 donation, individuals can show their support for the World Congress activities and help combat homophobia in the Jewish community worldwide. I

(Continued on page 11)

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alita Rosenfeld & Howard Blechman, co-chairs, Leonard Brill, Shirley Liberman, Margaret Livingston, and Lane Schickler (general editorial and production), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Allan Brandstein, Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Hal Podgur, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

In the Midst of the High Holiday Season

And God said, "I have forgiven as you have spoken."

—Yom Kippur Machzor

We have ushered in the New Year 5750. As a community, we proceed together from the tranquil joy of Rosh Hashanah through the Ten Days of Repentance and Shabbat Shuvah. During these intermediate days, we continue the season's intensified process of introspection, repentance, and world-repair through prayer, mending relationships and acts of giving such as our High Holiday Blood Drive and filling our AIDS food baskets. The Ten Days of Repentance culminate in our most solemn occasion, Yom Kippur. Shortly thereafter, we celebrate together Sukkot, a time to be thankful for God's shelter and sustenance. Our High Holiday season concludes with Simchat Torah on October 21, when we rejoice in the yearly cycle of reading the Torah. Please refer to the High Holiday schedule for October for exact times and locations of all services and related events.

A Summary of High Holiday Logistics: Pertinent details from last month's *Forward* follow. See the September *Forward* for the full High Holiday article.

Three Saturday Morning Services: Note on the High Holiday schedule in this issue that we will have Saturday morning services on October 7, 14 and 21 for Shabbat Shuvah, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. *We will not have our regular service on the last Saturday, October 28.* The October 14 service will be at the home of Rabbi Yoel Kahn (see the schedule).

Seating at the Unitarian Center: Our services are open to all, without advance tickets or reservations. For Kol Nidre, Sha'ar Zahav members will be asked to present the membership card to admit them and their guests to the members' reserved seating area. (If you are a member in good standing and have not received your membership card in the mail, please contact the synagogue office.) Plan to arrive at least 30 minutes early, as the sanctuary fills quickly.

We have reserved the chapel, the Starr King and Martin Luther King rooms at the Unitarian Center (in addition to the main sanctuary) to accommodate our

large Kol Nidre congregation. The sound from the main sanctuary will be transmitted to the other rooms.

Parking: Parking close to the Unitarian Center is at a premium. Meters and street parking restrictions will be enforced on Sunday evening (Kol Nidre), but not on Yom Kippur day because it will also be Columbus Day. There are a number of nearby lots with various parking charges, but please note that there is *no* parking available at the Uni-

office to guarantee space. Those without reservations will be accommodated on a space available, first come, first serve basis on the day of the service.

Donations are requested. Member's fee per child: per day service, \$3; per evening service, \$6; all four services, \$10. Non-member's fee per child: per day service, \$4; per evening service, \$8; all four services, \$12. Please add \$2 for each additional child. In keeping with the philosophy of CSZ, no one will be turned away for lack of funds; however, you may be asked to contribute in other ways to help defray the cost of child care.

Children's Services: On Yom Kippur, the children's service will begin after the adult service at 1:30 pm in the main sanctuary.

Environmental Sensitivities: A section of the small chapel at the Unitarian Center will be designated "chemically free" during Kol Nidre. Your cooperation is requested in reserving this section for those who are environmentally sensitive. Please sit in this section only if you are not wearing colognes or perfumes, and do not have the scent of tobacco, etc.

Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services: We will observe the second day of Rosh Hashanah in our own sanctuary at 220 Danvers beginning on Sunday morning, October 1. Please note that we will *not* have a Second Day Maariv (evening) service the day before.

Shabbat Shuvah: We will observe Shabbat Shuvah on Friday evening and again on Saturday morning in our own sanctuary.

Healing Service: A liturgy for healing service will take place on the afternoon of Shabbat Shuvah, October 7, at 4 pm in the sanctuary of the synagogue. This service is open to everyone—those who are ill, those who are living with illness, those who are mourning a loss, and all who wish to join us in prayer and reflection. The afternoon service concludes with Havdalah.

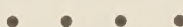
AIDS Food Drive: One of the reasons for fasting on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have done for the last three years, CSZ will collect non-perishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at our Kol Nidre service.

(Continued on page 7)



RALPH FRISCHMAN
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tarian Center. Plan your time to include this search!

Wheelchair Accessibility: Please notify the synagogue office if you will need assistance in entering through the special wheelchair entrance.

Signing at Services: We will be pleased to provide signers for the hearing impaired at any service when needed. Please call the synagogue office one week in advance for scheduling.

Child Care: Child care will be available during each service at the Unitarian Center, beginning 30 minutes in advance of a given service. Space is limited. Reservations must be made three days in advance. Reserve now by calling the

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Dvorah Honigstein, in memory of Miriam Honigstein

Childcare Fund

Laurie Hauer & Grace Laurencin, in memory of Kayla Given, grandmother of Jordan and Maya
Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper, in honor of Maya Kalia's birth

Education Fund

Laurie Hauer & Grace Laurencin, in honor of the birth and naming of Maya Kalia Hauer-Laurencin

Endowment Fund

Isabel Fishman, in memory of her friend Florence Chisholm
David Glassberg, in memory of his aunt, Jean Sikoff

Library Fund

Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun, in honor of Jonathan Schwartz' birthday

General Fund

Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, in honor of Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper's anniversary
Nancy Epstein, in memory of her grandmother, Goldie Berman
Allan Berenstein, in memory of his grandmother, Sadie Radetsky
Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper, in honor of Jonathan Funk's birthday and Jonathan Funk & John Arnold's anniversary
Ron Lezell, in honor of Jon Funk's birthday
Richard Inlander, in appreciation of Sharon Silverman's generosity to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
Bernard Pechter, in honor of Mr. Donald Lipsih
Bob Goldware, in honor of his friendship with Jay Feinstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Elizabeth Smith, in memory of her brother, Ed Gabay
Marion Trentman
Susan Stahl, in memory of her grandfather, Isadore Louis Stahl

AIDS Fund

Howard Blechman, with wishes for Robin Leonard's speedy and complete recovery

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Birthdays

- 2 Sharyn Saslafsky
- 4 Richard Inlander
- 5 Jeffrey Weil
- 7 Randy Heilbrunn
- 7 David Wasserman
- 7 Scott Feinstein
- 7 Michael Zimmerman
- 8 Joella Harlan
- 11 Forrest Kincade
- 13 David Gellman
- 13 Joshua Kennedy Rose
- 14 Michael Bettinger
- 14 Lisa Rachel Hirsch
- 20 Bernard Pechter
- 20 Milton Estes
- 20 Ron Moskowitz
- 21 Charles Norton
- 23 Seth Charney
- 23 Maayan Estelle Lieberman
- 24 Jerome Hipps
- 28 Yoel Kahn
- 29 Allan Berenstein
- 29 Pamela Miller
- 31 Jesse Hornstein

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Anniversaries

- 1 Brian Ellis & Steven Farmer
- 10 Joyce Amburgey & Cynthia Schorr
- 12 David Stein & Alex Ingersoll
- 17 Diane Margaret Spaugh & Marjorie Hilsenrad
- 30 Gail Friedlander & Gail Atkins
- 31 Roberta Weber & Lynn Alcorn

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Condolences

We at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend our sympathy to the following members who have suffered a recent loss.

To **George Ash** on the loss of his lover, David Kohler.

MEMBERSHIP

Check it out.

Besides the benefits
it feels good to be
part of Sha'ar Zahav.

Parenting

"A Jewish Perspective on Lesbian and Gay Parenting," a series of four panel discussions will be presented at Sha'ar Zahav in November and December. The four discussions will cover topics concerning parenthood in the lesbian/gay and Jewish communities. All will begin at 2:30 on Sunday afternoons.

November 5, "So You Want To Be a Parent ... Raising Children in the Lesbian/Gay and Jewish Communities," will have several parents speaking about their personal experiences. Sample topics are raising children in a home with one Jewish and one non-Jewish parent; introducing older kids to the Jewish community; the change that takes place in a person's relationship to the lesbian/gay community upon becoming a parent.

November 19, "A Lawyer and a Rabbi Talk About Lesbian/Gay Parenting." Attorney Roberta Achtenberg will provide information about the many legal issues surrounding the lesbian/gay family: open adoption laws; adoption of a child by both parents in a gay or lesbian relationship; wills, guardianships, and other tools for protecting our families. Rabbi Yoel Kahn will discuss the interrelationships among our roles as Jews, lesbians, gays and parents. He will also present the liberal Jewish perspective on open adoption, and conversion and circumcision for adoptees.

December 3, "A Lifelong Perspective on Jewish Adoption" will be presented by a panel of several adoptive parents, a mother who gave up her child, and an adult adoptee. Topics include before and after the child arrives; the adoption process; open adoption; international adoption; search and reunion in closed-records adoptions.

December 17, "The Newest Special Needs Children: Caring for HIV Positive and 'Crack'-Affected Kids." Participating will be the director of perinatology at Highland Hospital and speakers directly involved in the care and parenting of these children.

This series is the joint project of four Sha'ar Zahav committees: Social Action, Education, Family Chavurah, and Women's Chavurah. Watch for further information in November's *Forward*.

Brunch Eaters Needed

On the last Sunday of each month, for almost two years, a small group of CSZ stalwarts have been enjoying themselves and giving great pleasure to AIDS patients, their friends and families, at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco. The monthly brunch program has been tremendously successful and has even received commendation from the Kaiser management.

We need you—to help to keep this program alive. It is only for a couple of hours each month and you get to enjoy the very best brunch in the city, with good friends, and you provide a valuable mitzvah as well.

Don't be shy—call either Frank Hyman at 431-9479 or Allan Berenstein at 863-8033 for any further details. It's a great way for our newer members to get acquainted with some other folks. Do join us.

The next brunch is Oct. 29 at 10:30 am, fifth floor Doctor's Lunchroom.

—Shirley Liberman

Want to sell a dining room set?
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For more information, contact
Rick Wilson, 647-3258.

Dinner Chavurah Gains Weight

Sha'ar Zahav's Dinner Chavurah began earlier this year to provide members of the congregation more chances to socialize and become better acquainted with each other. Since that time, the participants (more than 20 now) have been eating together once a month in a small dinner group of six to eight people. The composition of the group changes monthly.

Dinner groups for the next few months are being formed. If you are not currently involved in the Dinner Chavurah but would like to spend one evening a month socializing with other CSZ members in a relaxed, informal setting, consider joining. There is no limit to the number of people who can participate. Dinners are potluck and held in members' homes. Being able to host a meal is not a requirement for participation.

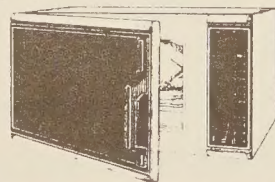
If you are interested in being a part of the chavurah or would like more information, contact Jerry Hipps at 431-4113. Bon Appetit!

New Members Potluck

The Membership Committee invites the congregation to a potluck in honor of our new members on Sunday, October 29, from 4 to 7 pm. It will be held at the home of Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm in the Castro. For more information, please call Merry at 664-4520. This is a relaxed, informal way to meet one another, talk and schmooze.

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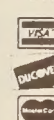
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Yahrzeits

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 (Tishri 2) Philip Yanfosky, father of Allen Harris</p> <p>2 Morris Landesman, grandfather of Jonathan Goldman</p> <p>4 (Tishri 5) Frances Sporn, mother of Sherry Sporn</p> <p>10 (Tishri 11) Jacob Leiss, father of Walt Leiss</p> <p>10 Rebecca Prengler, great-grandmother of Ann Biderman</p> <p>10 (Tishri 11) Lena Witt, grandmother of Sue Witt</p> <p>12 (Tishri 13) Sheri Reiss, friend of Ellen Kugler</p> <p>14 Leonard M. Rome, father of Leslie and Joanne Rome</p> <p>15 Ethel Markow Samuels Kent, mother of Shelley Samuels</p> <p>15 Dora Siegel Weinstein, grandmother of Barry Siegel</p> <p>15 (Tishri 16) Nathan Goldinger, grandfather of Neil Hart</p> <p>15 Leonard S. Ginne, father of Mindy Ginne</p> <p>16 (Tishri 17) Rabbi Ben Marcus, member of Congregation Sha'ar</p> | <p>Zahav</p> <p>17 (Tishri 18) Samuel Ladin, grandfather of Jay Ladin</p> <p>17 Shirley M. McCormick, mother of Michael J. McCormick, Jr.</p> <p>21 Osna Frischman, mother of Ralph Frischman</p> <p>22 George Jalbert, friend of Jonathan Schwartz</p> <p>23 David Newman, uncle of Allan Gold</p> <p>23 (Tishri 24) Nathan Ogus, father of Irene Ogus</p> <p>24 Glenn Murray Miller, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav</p> <p>25 Emilian Reznicek, friend of Steve Greenberg</p> <p>28 John Stuart-Munn, friend of Richard Inlander</p> <p>29 Jim Williams, friend of Marc Lipschutz</p> <p>29 (Tishri 30) Abraham Cahn, father of Isabel Fishman</p> <p>29 Agnes Lowenstein, mother of Margaret Livingston</p> |
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At-One-Ment

(Continued from page 1)

What does it mean to enjoy "at-one-ment"? Sometimes it appears that Yom Kippur has the opposite impact on us. By demanding that we confront our failings and transgressions, the High Holidays might only lead to guilt, despair and resignation. The purpose of Yom Kippur and the penitential season is not to focus on our failings or to lead us to experience guilt; rather, the High Holidays and their attendant ritual and spiritual practices point the way to healing the hurts, restoring broken parts of our lives, and coming to terms with who and what we are—that we may be "at-one" with our selves, the people whose lives are bound up with our own and with God.

Rabbi Moses Maimonides described 24 different blocks to *teshuvah*—sincere repentance—in his 12th century book, the *Mishnah Torah*. Maimonides reminds us that in addition to the obvious mistakes we have made, our *teshuvah* should properly include a searching and sincere examination of our character. What are the assumptions that we carry around with us about others and ourselves that keep us from "at-one-ment"? What are the habits or behaviors which

the world considers trivial but nonetheless demean ourselves and those around us? In our daily life, have we seen and honored the divine image reflected in every human person?

Teshuvah does not come easily to us; it requires honesty, will and courage. We are each strengthened in the knowledge that we are not alone; the community and the Holy One support us in our efforts to turn—from distance to intimacy, from separation to togetherness, from divided to "at-one-ment."

This prayer has helped me prepare for Yom Kippur. You may wish to use it as a setting for reflection during your own *teshuvah*.

God, I am not so arrogant as to pretend that the trial of my life does not reveal my flaws.

I know myself to have failed the ones I love and the stranger, again and again.

I know how often

I did not bring to the surface of my life

the hidden goodness within.

Where I have achieved, O God, I am grateful;

where I have failed,

I ask forgiveness.

Remember how exposed I am to the chances and terrors of life.

I was afraid.

Sometimes I chose to fail.

And I ask:

Turn my thoughts from the hurt to its remedy.

Free me from the torments of guilt.

Forgiven, I shall then forgive others; Renewed and encouraged, I shall strive to be like

Those who came before me: human, Sinners sometimes, yet a blessing.

High Holidays

(Continued from page 3)

Break Fast: Join us after Neilah, the closing service of Yom Kippur, for a break fast at the Unitarian Center. A table will be provided where those following macrobiotic diets can bring food for their break fast. Call Keith Barton for details at 428-1641.

Sukkot: The first of the three pilgrimage festivals begins at sundown on Friday, October 13. We will observe Sukkot during our Shabbat services that evening. On Saturday morning, October 14, Rabbi Kahn will host Shabbat services in his sukkah.

Families with children are invited to share a festive potluck luncheon with Kadimah, the CSZ religious school, and the Children's Chavurah, on Saturday, October 14, 11:30 am at the home of Sue Douglass in Albany.

Our congregational Sukkot celebration and potluck will be on Sunday, October 15, 6:45 pm, at the home of Allan Gold and Gary Glasser in San Francisco.

What to bring for the San Francisco potluck: If your last name begins with "A" for apple cider or "B" for bubbly brew, bring a beverage. Last names from "C" for cabbage through "J" for Jerusalem artichokes, bring a salad. "K" for kebabs through "R" for rock cornish hen, bring an entrée. From "S" for saffron rice through sweet potatoes; bring a side dish. Taiglach through zabaglione? Bring a dessert!

See the High Holiday schedule for a complete listing of times and locations. Please call Steve Elman at 651-5857 if you can help build the sukkah in San Francisco on Sunday, October 15 at 10:30 am or decorate it at noon, or if you have decorations or branches to contribute for any of the sukkot.

Simchat Torah: On Simchat Torah we celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah and then immediately begin the new cycle for the new year. At Sha'ar Zahav, we celebrate with *hakafot*—traditional dancing around the shul with the Torah. Join us at regular Friday evening services on October 20, and again on Saturday morning, October 21, at 10:30 am. Children are especially invited to attend our Saturday morning celebration.

Remember

to keep us up to date.

If you've moved,
changed your name,
have a new phone number,
or wish to add a listing
to our yahrzeit
or anniversary records,
please call or write
the synagogue office.

Robin's Thank You

For all those kind souls who called, sent cards or carried pots of chicken soup to my door during my recent illness, a heartfelt thanks!

—Your Vice President

Office Notes

Office Volunteer Program: One way you can productively help out your synagogue is by volunteering your time in the synagogue office. We have a variety of regular clerical tasks as well as projects that have just been waiting for the right person to take them on. If you do not work a regular 9-to-5 schedule and would like a way to connect with the synagogue, or if you are between jobs and want to make a contribution of yourself, call Jenny at 861-6932.

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Fall Classes: Basic Texts and Sources

The sources of our Jewish religious tradition are the central theme of our fall class offerings at Sha'ar Zahav. "Introduction to Judaism" will be a survey of Jewish theology, sacred literature, prayer, holidays and the life-cycle designed for Jews and non-Jews who want to enrich their basic knowledge of Judaism. Phyllis Mintzer, a talented and experienced Jewish educator and teacher in our religious school, will teach this class which meets for 10 Wednesday evenings, beginning on October 4.

Rabbi Yoel Kahn will teach "Back to the Sources: The Bible." This class will use the popular book, *Back to the Sources*, and a selection of Biblical texts in Hebrew and English to examine the Bible from the perspective of its authors and ourselves as modern Jewish readers. This class will meet on Tuesday evenings, beginning on October 17.

Our classes this fall are co-sponsored with Lehrhaus Judaica, the Bay Area school for adult Jewish education and the San Francisco Jewish Community Center. We are pleased to be pioneering in this new partnership in adult education. Please see the flier in this issue of the *Forward* for additional information on these classes and other Lehrhaus offerings.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained several new members and friends in September. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

E. Lawney Baldwin (returning)

Rose Katz

Tristano Palermino

Deborah Tirschwell

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

Desperately Seeking ...

A careful examination of this issue will reveal not one single photograph. Your Newsletter Committee is extremely eager to obtain the help of a photographer (not necessarily a professional) to make such a photo-less issue a thing of the past.

The duties are a snap—merely being at specific and various CSZ events and shooting away at every photo opportunity. Your film and processing costs will be paid by the committee.

The only requirements are camera equipment that can provide us with clear images for reproduction, and a desire to contribute the necessary time. If you are reading this and thinking "Why not," don't hesitate—pick up the phone now and call Howard at 821-0332.

Photo
Needed
Here!

Naches

Congratulations to **Andy Rose**, the director of the Jewish Family Services AIDS Project, who has been named the recipient of the first *Moment Magazine* Award for Social Service.

Congratulations to **Blanche Blachman and Adrienne Forshay** on the birth of Jaclyn Eileen Blachman Forshay, who was born on August 3, 1989.

Congratulations to **Eric Keitel** on being elected president of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations at the Congress' board meeting in August.

Congratulations to **Ruth Schoenbach and Lynn Eden** on the purchase of their first home together.

Food Bank

Please, don't forget our brothers and sisters in need. Keep filling the shul's collection baskets with non-perishable food and other household items for the SF AIDS Foundation's residence program.

Classified Ads

WHY SCHLEPP HEAVY bottles when you can enjoy point of use on-tap purified water for 6¢ per gallon. Call for free home trial and demonstration: Veronica Kleinberg, 641-8377, S.F. Multi-Pure Water Purifier Distributor.

COME SHARE MY HOME WITH ME. I am looking for one or two fabulous roommates. I am a sociable, friendly, fun-loving, non-smoking Jewish lesbian looking for same. I live in a huge three-bedroom, two-bathroom house with a fireplace, large back yard and all the modern conveniences. It's in a quiet, well-kept development on a hill where a convent once stood (it's holy ground!) in the Bayview. Easy access to freeways. Rent for one person for bedroom and shared den is \$750 + utilities, or rent per bedroom for two people is \$375 and \$425 + utilities. A well-behaved dog is always welcome. Call Shelley at 641-0811. Available October 15.

JEWISH WOMAN ROOMMATE: A new home for the New Year. 50s flat, Noe Valley, top floor, two-bedroom, fireplace, W/D, yard. Quiet, light-hearted semi-cat lover. \$445 + utilities. 821-3837.

September Va'ad Report

The September Va'ad meeting began with the customary call to order and check-in. In keeping with his focus on the themes of the upcoming High Holidays, Rabbi Kahn read a poem/prayer which explores themes of awareness, self-appraisal, and turning inward in thoughtful contemplation, as many of us will be doing in the coming weeks.

Rabbi Kahn then reported on Kadimah activities, and called our attention to the collages on the wall of the oneg room, which were made by Kadimah students to portray their own family calendars even as they learned about the Jewish calendar. Rabbi Kahn updated us on his continued work with the Central Conference of American Rabbis on homosexuality in the rabbinate. He also informed us that Andy Rose, director of the AIDS Project of Jewish Family and Children's Services, will be leaving his position in November.

Ben Schalit reviewed the September budget and answered technical questions from Va'ad members. Eric Keitel read a letter of thanks from the S.F. AIDS Foundation for our continued support and encouraged us to keep the food baskets filled. He reported on his and Robin Leonard's recent trip to Chicago for the 11th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews and the annual board meeting of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. After a moment's reflection on how difficult it is to get things done in just two days with a board composed of members from around the world, Eric informed us that he has agreed to serve as president of that organization for the coming year. (Who was it who said if you want something done, ask a busy person?) He spoke of the enthusiastic response to his and Robin's presentations, and reminded us that young organizations in this group which are still struggling to grow and formalize themselves look to our congregation for assistance and support. Eric also reminded us that we will be hosting the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews in 1991.

Mike Rankin, our UAHC liaison, has been asked to serve as chair of the

UAHC AIDS Committee. This is both a great honor and a significant responsibility, as Rabbi Kahn pointed out to us. Mike will be doing a workshop on homosexuality in October for Rabbi Chester of Temple Sinai in Oakland.

Don Albert, co-chair of our Bat/Bar Mitzvah Celebration, reported on the plans to date. The main event will be a champagne/dessert party and dance with live music, and is scheduled for June 30, 1990 at the Green Room of the Veteran's War Memorial. Honorees will be invited to Shabbat services. These and all other events are still in the preliminary planning stage, and will be reported on as plans are formalized.

Jenny Helbraun, our office manager, presented building repair recommendations, including soundproofing the doors of the rabbi's office. Most of the repairs are the result of a security review of our premises done by the San Fran-

cisco Police Department after the last break-in. After some discussion of the details, the Va'ad authorized the Building Committee to proceed.

Ann Biderman reported that the women's dance will be held in the spring rather than shortly after the High Holidays as it was last year. Merry Luskin, chair of the Membership Committee, presented five new members who were unanimously voted in. She also reported on the members reinvolverment project—the letters have already been mailed and follow-up phone calls will be made shortly. Jenny Helbraun has already received some telephone calls from recipients of the letter who would like to volunteer.

In keeping with our custom, the meeting was adjourned shortly before 9 pm with the singing of Oseh Shalom.

—Gail Friedlander, Recorder



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First Israeli Gay Pride Event

Earlier this year, the Knesset voted to decriminalize homosexual acts, amending the archaic law left over from the days of the British Mandate. The amendment served to license sexual relations between consenting adults.

Only a few weeks before this historic vote, another important event occurred for gay and lesbian Israelis. A major public event called "The Lesbian/Homosexual Experience" took place at Tel Aviv's Tzavta Theatre with full media coverage. Organized by Otzma (Power), the political branch of the 13-year-old gay/lesbian Society for the Protection of Personal Rights (SPPR), Israel's gay and lesbian leaders publicly met with members of the Knesset, ranging from the leftist Citizens Rights Movement to the rightist Likud parties.

These changes and the issues facing gay and lesbian Israelis were the topics of an early September presentation to our congregation by Hadar Namir. Hadar, a long-time board member of the SPPR and its current secretary, was on a cross-country tour to strengthen the links between our communities. Addressing an overflow crowd in our library, Hadar articulately described the challenges which face Israel's still largely closeted gays and lesbians. Overcoming religious and societal constraints, Hadar enumerated several examples of the progress being made by the SPPR in improving the self-image of Israeli gays and lesbians.

- Twenty years after Stonewall, Israel celebrated its first International Gay Pride Day. While not yet a public parade, there was a week of various cultural and entertainment events.

- For the past nine years, the SPPR has been operating the White Line Switchboard which anonymously provides guidance to gays and lesbians and their relatives and friends. Due to increased demand, more volunteers are being trained, with plans to expand to seven days per week availability from the present three.

- The SPPR has also become the recognized source of lecturers on the subject of homosexuality, having given hundreds of lectures throughout the country at kibbutzim, moshavim, universities

and even the army. With dramatically increased demand, especially by teenagers, health workers and educators, selection and training of more speakers is underway.

- A network of legal counselors is now being organized to help the community file suits against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. While contributing to sensitizing public opinion and eliminating prohibitive legal fees, this complements the efforts of the newly formed Otzma team. Otzma is a non-partisan political group, campaigning for legislative and social redress of the status of gays and lesbians in Israel, and is demanding rights equal to those of heterosexuals.

Regarding AIDS, Hadar described a government that has been generally non-supportive in terms of education and care. In fact, the availability of anonymous testing is not always assured. The Israel AIDS Committee, ostensibly operated by and for the public at large, in practice is run primarily by gay men, although the official cooperation of some prominent doctors (including one who is now chairperson) has been achieved. The committee, surviving exclusively on private donations mainly from abroad, has become the official resource for all the non-establishment activities in the field of information, education and support to HIV-positives and PWAs in Israel.

Hadar also described KLAF, the Lesbian-Feminist Community, which for the past two years has been meeting regularly. With over 200 members on its mailing list, KLAF holds parties and discussion groups which often deal with lesbian culture as expressed through local authors and poets.

Newly formed private projects include a Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) support group and another group called HOD. HOD is an acronym for religious homosexuals, meant to cater to the specific needs of the observant and moderate-orthodox Israeli Jewish gays.

The SPPR relies on the financial support, not only of its Israeli members, but also support from abroad. A donation of \$25 or more will make you an Interna-

tional Member of the SPPR. You can demonstrate your support for the efforts of the SPPR by sending a donation of any amount (check payable to SPPR) either to the synagogue office or directly to:

The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights
P.O. Box 16151
Tel Aviv 61161
Israel

Note: The SPPR rents a facility in Tel Aviv (23 Beit Yosef, behind 54 Allenby) which houses its library and in which many social and cultural events occur. Before your next visit to Israel, be sure to contact the synagogue office for names and phone numbers of individuals who can provide hospitality and link you with Israel's gay and lesbian community.

—Ron Lezell
Chair, Israel Chavurah

Challenge to Chabad: IRAC Demands Reform Presence at Ben Gurion

For many years, the Chabad movement has operated a booth and distributed religious literature at Ben Gurion airport in Israel. Citing this precedent, the Israeli Reform movement requested permission from the airport authority to set up a similar booth. When it was turned down, the ARZA-sponsored Israel Religious Action Center filed a petition with Israel's Supreme Court, asking the court to take one of two actions: either close down the Chabad booth because religious activity is inappropriate in an airport, or else if it deems religious activity to be permissible, allow a Reform booth alongside Chabad because there is no basis in Israeli law for discrimination against the Reform movement. The court's decision is pending. In the meantime, the Religious Action Center has filed a series of other suits in defense of Reform rights in Israel. You can help by joining ARZA, which finances the activities of the Israel Religious Action Center. Contact the synagogue office, the rabbi or our ARZA chairperson, Ron Lezell, for information on ARZA membership.

Twice Blessed

Twice Blessed: An Anthology on Gay and Lesbian Jews will be published by Beacon Press this fall. Co-edited by CSZ member Andy Rose and including contributions from several CSZ members, this important volume addresses the full range of our experiences as gay and lesbian Jews. CSZ will sponsor a book party in honor of the publication of *Twice Blessed* on Saturday evening, November 18. Save the date; further details and an order form for the book will appear in November's *Forward*.

Oneg Sponsors

During August onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 4 Jonathan Funk & John Arnold, in honor of their fifth anniversary, and in honor of Jonathan's parents' visit
- 11 Jerry Rosenstein and the Finance Committee in honor of Don Albert
- 18 Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun in honor of the visit of Mark's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Mackler.
- 25 Members of the Va'ad, in honor of Rob Tat's many years of coordination of the Advance.

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

Chicago Hyatt

(Continued from page 2)

urge you to make this commitment to gay and lesbian World Jewry, and send in your donation today. It can be sent to Sha'ar Zahav—please make your check out to the World Congress. All contributions are tax deductible. If you have any further questions about the World Congress, please speak to me about it.

I wish you all a good fast and good health during the High Holiday season and beyond.

—Eric Keitel

Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Officers:

President, Eric Keitel
Vice President, Robin Leonard
Treasurer, Ben Schalit
Recorder, Gail Friedlander

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Allan Berenstein
 Leslie Bergson
 Ann Biderman
 Steve Greenberg
 Merry Luskin
 Jose Luis Moscovich
 Alita Rosenfeld
 Jonathan Schwartz
 Dana Vinicoff

Committee Chairs:

Bikkur Cholim, Paul Cohen
Brotherhood, by committee
Building, Ken Burke
Bylaws, Richard Inlander
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Chavurah, Lorraine Locke-Nacamulli and Judith Cohen
Cookbook Project, Sanford Friedman
Dinner Chavurah, Jerry Hipps
Education, by committee
Finance, Jerry Rosenstein
Israel Chavurah, Ron Lezell
Long-Range Planning, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir
Membership, Merry Luskin
Newsletter, Howard Blechman & Alita Rosenfeld
Oneg, Scott Mezistrano
Past Presidents Council, Don Albert
Personnel, Irene Ogus
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky

Religious School, David Gellman & Ida Kuluk
Ritual, by committee
Social Action, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz
Social Program, Marc Mencher
Spirituality Chavurah, Larry Wexler
Women's Chavurah, Ann Biderman

Office Personnel:

Manager, Jenny Helbraun
Secretary, Veronica Kleinberg

Office Hours: Mon. 9–5; Tue. 1–5; Wed. 10–6; Thu. 9–5; Fri. 9–5.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am — check calendar for each month.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Member Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Eric Keitel, Liaison) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Ora Prochovnick, Liaison).

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300

OCTOBER

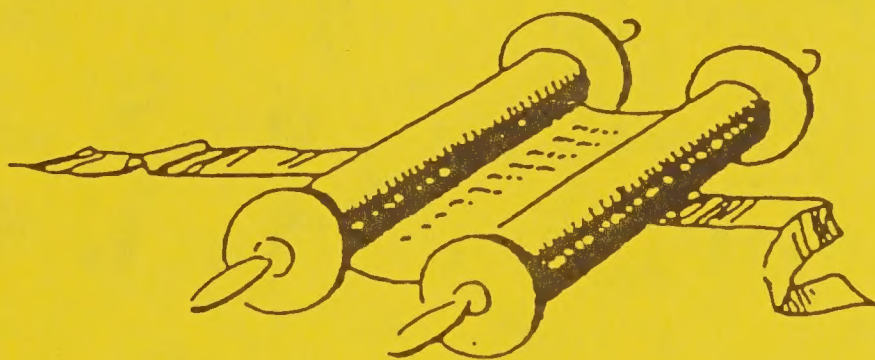
תשרי-חשוון

<p>1 Sunday 2 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, Rosh Hashanah second day services • 11am, Bikkur Cholim nursing home visits • 4pm, Ensemble 	<p>9 Monday 10 Tishri</p> <p>Yom Kippur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10am, Yom Kippur Shacharit, Musaf, see High Holidays schedule • 1:30pm, Yom Kippur Children's Service • 3:30pm, Yom Kippur Mincha Service • 5pm, Yom Kippur Yizkor & Neilah Service 	<p>424 Central, San Francisco</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:45pm, Sukkot service/potluck, 424 Central, San Francisco 	<p>23 Monday 24 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7pm, Gift Shop open
<p>2 Monday 3 Tishri</p>	<p>10 Tuesday 11 Tishri</p>	<p>16 Monday 17 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Third Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30pm, Va'ad meeting 	<p>24 Tuesday 25 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Back to the Sources class
<p>3 Tuesday 4 Tishri</p>	<p>11 Wednesday 12 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro, San Francisco • 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class 	<p>17 Tuesday 18 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Fourth Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Back to the Sources class 	<p>25 Wednesday 26 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class
<p>4 Wednesday 5 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class 	<p>12 Thursday 13 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Building Committee 	<p>18 Wednesday 19 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Fifth Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Judaism class 	<p>26 Thursday 27 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:30pm, Ritual Committee • 7:30pm, Newsletter mailing, 14 Grandview Terrace
<p>5 Thursday 6 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Social Action Comm. • 7:30pm, Long-Range Planning Meeting 	<p>13 Friday 14 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Service Erev Sukkot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15pm, Services, Rabbi Kahn and Dana Vinicoff 	<p>19 Thursday 20 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Sixth Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Bikkur Cholim 	<p>27 Friday 28 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15pm, Services, Bereshit, Rabbi Kahn and Bill Schlichter, childcare available
<p>6 Friday 7 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15pm, Services, Ha'azinu, Shabbat Shuvah, Rabbi Kahn and Daniel Chesir 	<p>14 Saturday 15 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot First Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am, Kadimah • 10:30am, Sukkot service at Rabbi Kahn's, call CSZ • 11:30am, Children's Sukkot, 925 Talbot Ave., Albany • 5:30pm, Israel Chavurah Sukkot Party, 1958 Marin, Berkeley 	<p>20 Friday 21 Tishri</p> <p>Simchat Torah Sukkot Seventh Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:15pm, Services, Vezot Habrachah, Atzeret-Simchat Torah, Leslie Bergson and Scott Mezistrano, Torah Service 	<p>28 Saturday 29 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am, Kadimah • 10:30am, Morning Services
<p>7 Saturday 8 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am, Kadimah • 10:30am-2:30pm, High Holidays Blood Drive, Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, call Kate, 526-2394 • 10:30am, Services, Ha'azinu, Shabbat Shuvah, Rabbi Kahn and Bill Schlichter • 1:30pm, High Holidays rehearsals • 4pm, Shabbat Shuvah Healing Service, Rabbi Kahn 	<p>15 Sunday 16 Tishri</p> <p>Sukkot Second Day</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pro-Choice Coalition March • 10:30am, Sukkah building, 	<p>21 Saturday 22 Tishri</p> <p>Azteret-Simchat Torah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:30am, Kadimah • 10:30am, Simchat Torah Service, Rabbi Kahn and Steve Greenberg • 11am, Kadimah Simchat Torah Service 	<p>29 Sunday 30 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco • 10:30am, Simchat Torah Rally, Green and Baker streets • 4pm, New members' potluck, Rabbi Kahn's house, call CSZ
<p>8 Sunday 9 Tishri</p> <p>Kol Nidre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2pm, Ensemble • 7:30pm, Kol Nidre 	<p>22 Sunday 23 Tishri</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11am, Spirituality Chavurah to Bob & Bob's (meet CSZ) • 4pm, Ensemble 	<p>30 Monday 1 Heshvan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Education Comm. 	<p>31 Tuesday 2 Heshvan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm, Back to the Sources

CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV'S EDUCATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS...



Biblical Studies



Back to the Sources: Part I: The Bible

The Jews are the "People of the Book" and this class will explore the varieties of literature in the Book of Books -- the Bible. Using the popular volume *Back to the Sources* and selected Biblical texts (in Hebrew and English), this class will examine the Bible from the perspective of its authors and ourselves as modern readers.

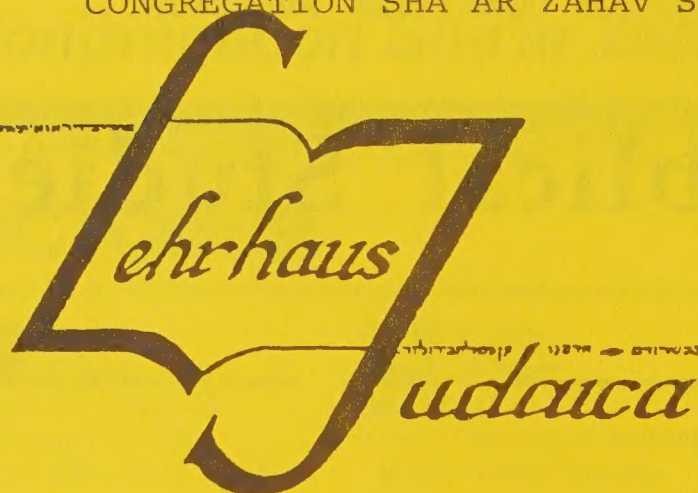
Rabbi Yoel Kahn
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

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Begins Tuesday, Oct. 17, 7:30-9 PM for six sessions
Call Sha'ar Zahav or Lehrhaus (845-6420)
for more information and a free catalog

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-OVER-

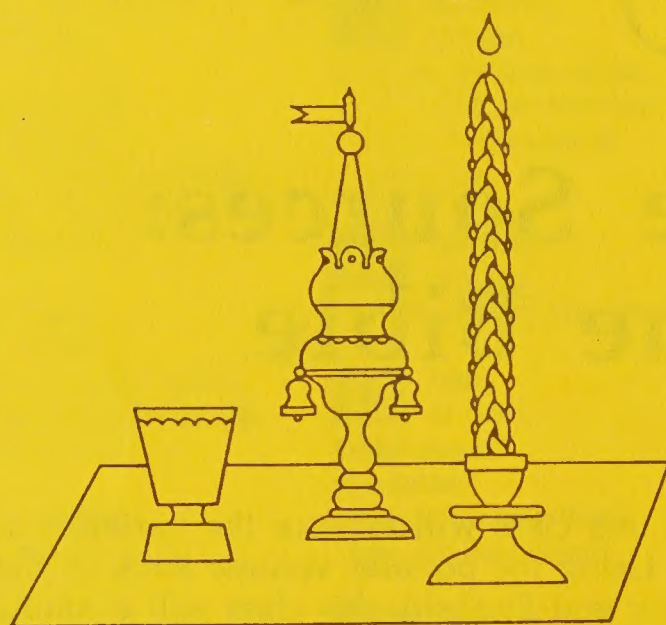
CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV'S EDUCATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS...



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\$25/ members

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-OVER-